

A LOOK AT THE COMMUNITY

Concrete opportunities for manifesting our Christian concerns are opening at an accelerated rate. Indeed, October promises to be the busiest month ever in the field of community building. Here, briefly, are four "fronts" on which Trinity people should be prayerfully and actively at work.

A. Housing and Neighborhood Renewal - (1) Urging enactment of Revised Housing Code. The Newark City Council is now studying a proposed revision of the city housing code. Public hearings are expected within the month. According to Mr. Jacob Feldman of the Council of Social Agencies' staff, this revision, which includes the development of needed rooming house regulations, "will do more to revive neighborhoods than anything else that has come before the City Council." The Mayor and other city officials are saying that the proposed code, by eliminating numerous inconsistencies in definitions and regulatory provisions, is eminently more enforceable. They pledge strict enforcement if the revision is adopted. (2) Renewing our Thinking on Urban Renewal. Mr. Martin Bergen has recently opened the field office for the Clinton Hill Urban Renewal Project across from Trinity Church. In the coming months, he will be visiting property owners within the designated 14-block project area. The rehabilitation program, which he will be directing, deserves our fullest cooperation. Since the success of the project depends on the willingness of homeowners to undertake their own property improvements, council leaders maintain that homeowners must be assured of strict housing code enforcement, "crack-downs" on rent gougers, and the inclusion of new school construction as a part of the total urban renewal. (3) The Clinton Hill Neighborhood Council is calling a Fall Housing Conference on Sunday, October 12, 3-6 p.m., at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church. Church and civic leaders of Newark are being invited to meet with Council members to explore the bases for a common housing strategy. The keynote address will be given by Mr. William Brach, legal consultant to the N.C.R.C.R. and the Urban Renewal Demonstration Grant Project.

B. Education - (1) The Council proposes that a new elementary school in the lower Clinton Hill area be built within two or three years, that additions to the Avon and Bergen Schools be built within one year to provide auditoriums, lavatory and lunchroom facilities, and that educational experimentation be initiated to restore morale, enrich the curriculum, raise standards, improve student performance and modernize plants. (2) All Clinton Hill residents are urged to join a massive "NEW SCHOOL PARADE" on Tuesday evening, October 27. Residents will assemble at Trinity Church at 7 p.m., and then go by cars and buses to the downtown area. The group will then march to the Board of Education carrying placards.

C. Public Affairs Education - The West Side Adult School has planned a community program designed to orient and acquaint the residents with the "New Look" which is planned for the redevelopment and rehabilitation of Newark as a city. Every aspect of this program will be discussed by the very people who have the responsibility of pushing and completing the plan. A question and answer period will follow each discussion. For further information regarding this series of panel meetings, please read the bulletin board. The first session was September 28th and the next one is on October 5.

D. UN Birthday Celebration - The United Nations 14th birthday will be celebrated on October 22nd at 8:30 p.m. in the Essex House. The program will be sponsored by The Newark U.N. Day Committee. Dr. Henry H. Kissinger of Newark and Dr. Howard A. Rusk of New York, internationally known leaders in rehabilitation will be speakers. Two seminars on African and Far Eastern tensions will be held for the public on United Nations Day, Oct. 25.

-- Kim Jefferson

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MEMORANDUM AND QUESTIONNAIRE

TO: All persons interested in plans for a part-time Nursery

NOTE: It has been brought to the attention of the Church staff that several of the parents of pre-school age children are interested in initiating here at the church, a cooperative nursery for a few hours during the week. It was thought that such a plan would give those participating mothers an opportunity for free time during the day, and would also provide for the children a bit of group play.

Please check the questionnaire and return to: Mrs. U. Roundtree,
Trinity Methodist Church, Clinton and Treacy Avenues, Newark, N.J.

1. Are you definitely interested in a nursery group one or two days a week? Yes No.
2. What two hours during the day would be most convenient for you for such a nursery to be held? 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. ; 12:30 p.m. to 2:45 p.m. .
3. Would you be willing to contribute certain supplies for the children to use, if and when necessary, such as crayons, games, etc.? Yes No.
4. How many children in your household would you want to participate in such program? .
5. What ages are the children in your household that would be participating? , , , , , , , and .
6. Is this something to which you would bring your child every day it is open? Yes No.
7. Is this something to which you would bring your child only occasionally.
8. If you are interested, could we count on you to do your share by serving in the group at least 2 hours a month? Yes No.
9. Could you attend a meeting for working out plans for such a nursery? Yes No.

Please sign this questionnaire and return by October 10th, in order that we may be able to determine the exact number of persons who are interested in such a program.

Signature _____

Please print:

Name: _____

Address:

Telephone: